



*For immediate release*

## International Delegation Visits Indiana Prison

Indianapolis, IN (October 4, 2010) On Monday, September 27, 2010, a three person delegation from Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan spent the day with Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) officials, learning about juvenile corrections in the United States.



PNJCF Superintendent Linda Commons welcomes the delegates to Pendleton Juvenile

The delegation is part of the International Visitor Leadership Program through the U.S. Department of State. The three-week program brings together two Kazakhstani government officials responsible for management and operations within the country's prison system; Mr. Rinat Kabiyeu and Mr. Yeskali Salamatov, and an Uzbek medical doctor, Dr. Vokhid Karimov, who has extensive experience monitoring the health and well-being of inmates in the region's correctional facilities.

The visit began with a round table discussion with IDOC's leaders in Indianapolis. After the meeting, the group traveled to Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility (PNJCF) to tour the grounds and meet with facility staff. During the tour, the delegates were able to walk through and observe various parts of the facility including the intake unit, a housing unit, and the school and programs building. PNJCF staff and administration were on hand to discuss the facility's programs such as PLUS (Purposeful Living Units Serve), Graduate Equivalent Diploma (GED), and the Future Soldiers Program.



(L-r): Mr. Yeskali Salamatov, Ms. Natalia Kononenko, interpreter, and Mr. Vokhid Karimov

While in the United States the delegation will have an opportunity to examine the U.S. penal system through site visits to federal, state and local detention facilities. Discussions with prison and parole administrators, law enforcement and incarceration professionals, prisoners' rights advocates, and others will acquaint the visitors with U.S. policies and prison conditions.



(Back Row (l-r): Mr. Vokhid Karimov, Keith Butts, Tim Greathouse)  
(Front Row (l-r): Mr. Yeskali Salamatov, Superintendent Linda Commons, Mr. Rinat Kabiyeu)

"I am honored that the IDOC has the opportunity to serve as a national model for juvenile corrections and happy to share best practices with our fellow corrections professionals. The IDOC is committed to improving the services provided to the youth in our care, giving them the support they need to positively impact their future," said IDOC Commissioner Edwin G. Buss.

With over 59,000 inmates, Kazakhstan has one of the largest prison populations in Central Asia. The Ministry of Justice is currently responsible for the management of 93 penitentiary institutions, which include 73 correctional facilities (including three facilities for women and three facilities for juveniles) and 20 pre-trial detention centers.

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